Tier III concerns are just coming into clear focus.

- A. BEST AND WORST CASE SCENIERO on Benefits for TIER III
 - a. Not enough have retired to get an overall picture of the Benefits, however, these figures are the best we have at this time.
 - b. These figures are based on 30 years of service. Tier I & Tier II Benefit is equal to 50 to 55% of the employee's final average salary.
 - c. <u>Tier III has a conditional dividend credit built in!</u> Therefore, there is a BEST CASE & WORST CASE (BC/WC) Scenario.
 - d. Original 2012 Legislation Cash Balance Plan Benefit BC/WC 43% to 34% of final average salary.
 - e. Change Legislation after 2013 Session Cash Balance Plan Benefit BC/WC 40% to 28% of final average salary.
 - f. Latest Calculation Cash Balance Plan Benefit BC/WC 38% to 27% of final average salary. 12-31-2019 (Note on page 3 of this document the Comparison Chart Provided by KPERS at The House Insurance and Pensions Committee, March 24, 2021. This chart is a visual of the best case/worst case scenario of projected benefits.)
- B. ADDITIONALLY Tier III:
 - a. Has No multiplier
 - b. Today's KPERS Tier III Membership makes up 33.3% of the active KPERS members. (48,621 of 146,104)
 - c. Tier III has NO final average salary calculation.
 - d. PLSO Maximum is 30% vs 50% in Tier I. (Tier II PLSO max is also 30%)
 - e. It takes 5 years to determine the 'dividend credit'. (75% of the five-year average net compound rate.)
 - f. Tier III does have a COLA, but it must be "paid" for by the employee! This translates into taking less initial benefit at retirement.
 - g. Presently (Tier I & II) the PLSO helps the Trust fund because the money paid in by employee and the investment income is paid out within 3 to 4 years. Trust fund impact has not been determined regarding Tier III.
 - h. Employer Credits Under Tier III
 - 1. Years of service 1-4 3%
 - 2. Years of service 5-11 4%
 - 3. Years of service 12-23 5%
 - 4. Years of service 24+ 6%
 - i. Additionally, the dividend was reduced. This dividend was to be paid to all in Tier III.
 - 1. The legislation enacted to establish Tier III called for a 5.25% dividend be paid if certain investment requirements were met.
 - 2. Following year legislation reduced the dividend level to 4.0% level.
 - 3. In the 5 years of Tier III, the 4% dividend has only been paid twice.
 - j. Present vesting is 5 years. If you leave (Have a break in service & **do not** take you accumulated funds.) KPERS employment after vesting, you can come back in the Tier you were in. If you leave I or II not vested and come back, you must come back under Tier III.

C. SUGGEST WAYS TO IMPROVE TIER III:

- 1. Increase the guaranteed minimum benefit amount.
- 2. Improve annual employee credits.
- 3. Decrease the required years of service to receive employee credits.
- 4. Increase PLSO.
- 5. Disengage Tier III calculations from the investment goals set by KPERS Board.
- 6. Alter retirement age requirement. Present retirement ages are as follows:
 - A. Full Retirement at age 60 with 30 years of service

- B. Full Retirement at 65 with 5 years of service
- C. Reduce Retirement at 55 W/10 years of service.
- 7. The dividend amount needs to be considered for improvement. [See I, 3 above.] The dividend without dividend is 4%. This relates to the worst-case scenario calculation.

Miscellaneous in formation of note:

- 1. The 2020 Joint Committee recommended ongoing evaluation of dividend formula "to provide equity as intended!
- 2. An informational discussion was held on March 24, 2021, in the House Insurance and Pensions Committee. A presentation was made by KPERS Staff. There have been no bills introduced to address any improvements.
- 3. KP&F and Judges remain under previous retirement system.

Information last edited, March 28, 2021.

KPERS 3 Replacement Ratios

